

Day's Developments on Battle Fronts

British Capture Two Villages on Road to Cambrai

Advance Line Eight Miles East of Bapaume Is Another Dash

Kaiser Orders Halt

Germans Battle Desperately to End Menace to Hindenburg Line

London, March 30.—All reports now indicate that contact is everywhere established between the opposing armies along the Hindenburg line. But there is a distinct lull while the advancing armies are bringing up their heavy guns and supplies and generally consolidating their positions.

The weather has hampered operations in the last few days, but in any circumstances the Allies do not intend to make a big attack until they are again able to outgun the enemy.

Despite this, the British gained an important success today, capturing the village of Ruvalcourt, which brings their line more than eight miles east of Bapaume. The official British report says that the capture of this village was the result of a series of sharp fighting both at this village and further south, where a batch of German prisoners was brought in.

The villages of Sorlele-Grand and Fins, on the line toward Cambrai, have also been occupied by the British troops. A German counter attack flung at the new British position at Neuville-Bourval, captured on the 28th, was beaten off with loss.

French Regain Champagne Lines

The French have been comparatively quiet, except for attacks of their bombers near Maumont. Paris states that to night report from Paris states that the counter attack by Nivelle's troops, the French ousted the Germans, obtained a footing in the line, and were seeking to divert the on the 28th, the French moved forward, capturing the Coney plateau. The French success today cost the Germans sixty-three prisoners.

Some progress has also been made by the French in the sector of Virey-Margival, north of Soissons, showing they have by no means abandoned their advance toward the Craonne Plateau.

From Arras, the German offensive seems to be developing. The Germans admit heavy British attacks east of Neuville-St. Vaast, in the Vimy region, while an apparent fit of nerves led to their initiating a violent bombardment near Arras, which the British answered quickly silenced. Two raids were carried out by British troops last night east of Neuville-St. Vaast, which resulted in losses for the Germans.

Kaiser Orders Line Held

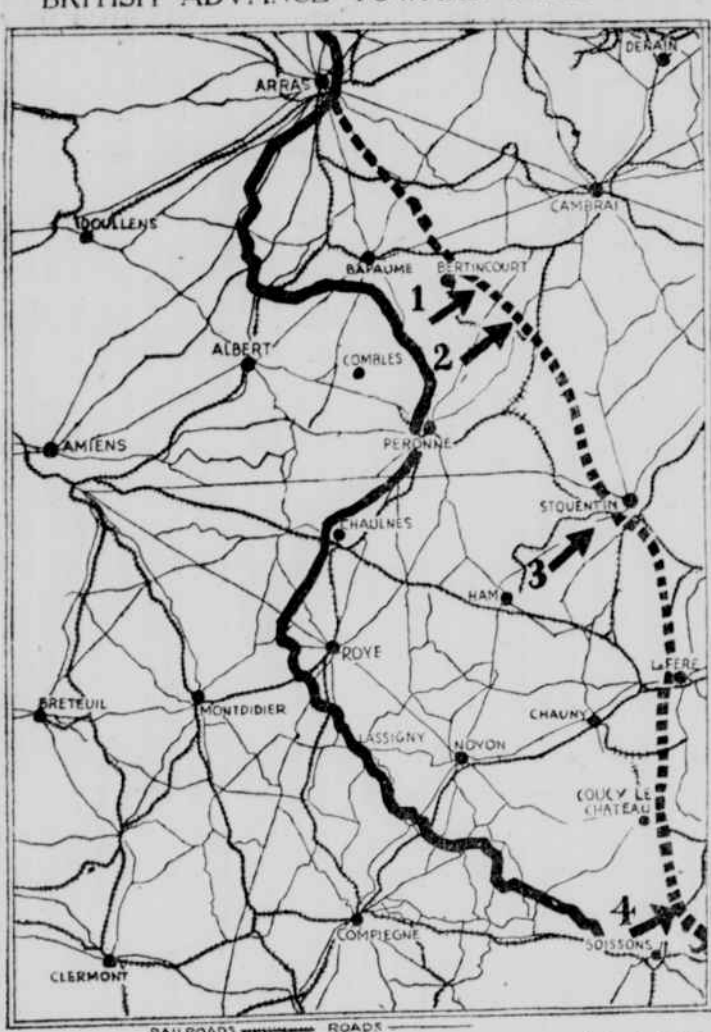
It is stated that the Kaiser has been on the Western front and ordered his troops to hold the new line at all costs. They have undoubtedly fought with greater determination in the last few days, but nevertheless there are indications that the new ground is less strong than was thought, and that the return of good weather will probably see a renewal of the German retreat.

Operations on the front north of Arras indicate that the British are determined to force a German retreat in that sector and thereby hasten the withdrawal of Hindenburg from his who's new line.

The Berlin report declares four attacks by Canadian regiments in the Neuville-St. Vaast region were repulsed with losses, some captives remaining in German hands.

The artillery duel near Arras developed an extreme violence. It was opened by German drum-fire, but this was answered in a strong concentration of British battery fire. Similarly, in the Ypres sector, the German trench

BRITISH ADVANCE TOWARD FOE'S LINE



Arrows (1) and (2) indicate the advance of the British line toward Cambrai. The upper arrow points to the village of Ruvalcourt, the lower to the neighboring village of Sorlele-Grand and Fins. All three of these villages were occupied by the British yesterday. Arrow (3) shows the British advance to St. Quentin. Here they took a triangular group of towns on March 28. Arrow (4) indicates French progress yesterday near Virey-Margival.

mortars suddenly became furiously active, only to be silenced by the superior violence of the British reply.

The Germans admit a retreat of their protecting troops on the line of Ruvalcourt-Sorlele, in the withdrawal upon Cambrai, but report dispersing French detachments prepared for attack along several points of the line from Soissons to Rheims.

German Rear Guard Take French Prisoners

Berlin, March 26 (by wireless to Tuckerton, N.J., March 30).—The progress of the British and the French in the sector of the Western front evacuated by the Germans has almost stopped, according to German officials here.

The fighting is growing more stubborn, but they declare the French reports of the battles are overdrawn, the engagements being more manifestations of mobile warfare and the real action not having yet taken place.

The success of their undertakings, the German officials declare, is proved by the fact that the rearwards have captured 330 prisoners, two machine guns and one revolver cannon, while the British, who are moving forward at a slower pace than the French, have reported no prisoners and no guns taken, and the French, who have made at one point a twenty-five-mile advance, have taken but 120 prisoners and no guns.

Hollweg Thanks Troops For Skillful Retreat

London, March 30.—A Reuter dispatch from Amsterdam today adds the following to the wireless version of the speech of Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg, in the Reichstag:

"Regarding the military situation I have little to add to the army reports. In the east, extensive operations are out of the question at present. The season of impassable roads prevents operations on a greater scale.

"In the west our backward movements are being affected according to plan and lead to daily increasing freedom of movement. The thanks of the entire people are due to the troops and their skillful leaders.

"On all the other fronts our troops are standing with undiminished tenacity. In Macedonia, Bulgarian and German troops are splendidly repulsing French attacks on a great scale."

Russians Fail on Dvina

Berlin, March 30.—"An attack of several Russian companies on Prince Leopold's front, west of Dvinsk, failed under our fire," says the German official report on the East front fighting today.

"In Macedonia reconnoitering detachments advanced into the French positions between Odrin and Presha lakes and captured several quick-firing guns and large stores of ammunition."

The official news from Rome declares: "After violent artillery preparation an enemy detachment attempted to storm our position on Monte Fait. It was repulsed and almost annihilated by our machine gun fire. Successive assaults were likewise unsuccessful. The enemy suffered severe losses. We took some prisoners."

France to Aid Farmers

Paris, March 30.—The government introduced in the Chamber of Deputies today a supplementary appropriation bill for 300,000,000 francs.

The money is to be used for agricultural aid to the invaded districts, including those recently evacuated by the Germans.

400 Shells Rain on Rheims

Paris, March 30.—The City of Rheims in the last few days has been the object of special attack by the German artillery. On Wednesday 400 shells were thrown into the city.

Ancient Coucy Castle Blown Up by Germans

Thirteenth Century Relic Is Dynamited as French Push Defenders

With the French Armies on the French front, Thursday, March 29.—The progress of the French advance in the vicinity of Coucy-le-Chateau, now under in French hands, continued methodically today. Both cavalry and infantry are forcing the Germans to hasten the speed of their retreat.

From the strength and thorough preparation of the German defensive works it was evident that a longer stand was intended.

The Castle of Coucy-le-Chateau, a unique historical monument which ten days ago, although dismantled, was intact as constructed by Enguerrand III in the thirteenth century, was found today to be a mere heap of stones.

The French pursuing column, it appears, first sighted the castle from a distance on March 21. While they were approaching the castle seemed to rise in the air, and then, after an awe-inspiring explosion, resolved into dust. The French patrols came nearer and found the ruins still held by the Germans and the surrounding glacia and low-lying lands swept by many machine guns.

A young lieutenant with a number of comrades effected an entrance through ruined houses of the fortified village and drove out the German defenders.

What object the Germans could have had in destroying this relic remains a mystery, as the castle was useless in modern warfare. Cardinal Mazarin, during the reign of Louis XIV, once tried to demolish it when the castle served as a rallying point for feudalists. Its walls were in some places thirty-four feet in thickness. The entire surrounding country has been laid waste.

Cuban Rebels Surrender

Havana, March 29.—Virtually all the rebel forces of Rigoberto Fernandez in Oriente Province, between 600 and 600 in number, surrendered to the government at Guantánamo today. The rebels gave up 40,000 rounds of ammunition and sixteen dynamite bombs. Fernandez is still at large. Rafael Manduley, Liberal candidate for the Governorship of Oriente Province, also surrendered.

Cities and States Hurry Plans for Nation's Defence

Pittsburgh Authorities Forbid Pacifists to Hold Meeting

Vermont Votes Fund

Mosquito Fleet Cruise on the Great Lakes Is Arranged

Activities in various parts of the United States in preparing for war varied yesterday from an appropriation of \$1,000,000 for defence purposes by the small State of Vermont through a wide category of actions to the prohibition in Pittsburgh of an anti-war meeting.

Pittsburgh, March 30.—An order forbidding the holding of an anti-war meeting in a theatre here next Sunday was issued today by the Superintendent of Police, W. N. Matthews. This action was taken on instructions of the Director of Public Safety, C. S. Hubbard.

On the other hand, more than 80,000 children in the Pittsburgh public schools will assemble in their rooms next Monday at noon and sing patriotic songs as Congress convenes in Washington.

Montpelier, Vt., March 30.—The Legislature today passed a bill appropriating \$1,000,000 for equipping the National Guard of the state and organizing the home defence. The House passed the measure in the forenoon and it immediately went to the Senate, where favorable action was taken a few hours later. Governor Graham announced that he would sign the measure.

Hartford, Conn., March 30.—A memorial to Congress favoring enactment of legislation to provide for "universal military service" was adopted by both branches of the General Assembly today.

Chicago, March 30.—Orders have been received by Commandant W. A. Moffett, of the Great Lakes training station, to rush the enrollment of a division of 3,600 men to serve on 500 yachts and power boats being collected for the navy. Arrangements have been made for the distribution of the yachts on the Great Lakes, and preparations for a cruise of three weeks were started today.

Ann Arbor, Mich., March 30.—Regents of the University of Michigan, in session here today, appropriated \$2,500 to "mobilize the resources of the faculty, students and alumni of the university and to gather all possible information for the use of the Federal government."

Cleveland, March 30.—Reports from army, navy and Guard recruiting offices show a growth of patriotism on the part of Cleveland men. One hundred and fifty men applied, and fifty-nine were accepted at the various recruiting stations here yesterday.

Chester, Penn., March 30.—A ten weeks' free course in the manual of arms and in tactics has been offered to high school students more than sixteen years old and to citizens by the Pennsylvania Military College, the entire military staff of which, headed by Captain Lewis Sidney Morey, 10th United States Cavalry, has offered its services to the country.

Concord, N. H., March 30.—The State Committee on Public Safety today adopted resolutions declaring that a state of war now exists between the United States and Germany, "forced despite every American endeavor to avert it," and urging prompt and effective action by Congress and the nation.

Richard Cooney, president of the State Federation of Labor, pledged the support of organized labor to all measures for defence.

Boston, March 30.—A resolution urging Congress to enact laws providing for universal military and naval training was adopted without debate by the lower branch of the Legislature today. It passed the Senate last night and now goes to the Governor for approval.

Governor McCall announced today that he would request the Legislature next week to provide additional pay for members of the National Guard called into service and for relief of persons dependent upon them.

Springfield, Mass., March 30.—Practically the entire membership of the

fire department, 174 men, today offered their services on their days off to Mayor F. E. Stacey for home defence work. The plan has the approval of Chief W. H. Daggett.

Providence, R. I., March 30.—Governor Beecman today announced the receipt of orders from Major General Leonard Wood to mobilize a battalion of Rhode Island coast artillery at once. The Governor said he would decide soon which commands would be called.

Uniontown, Penn., March 30.—An instruction camp will be opened at the Uniontown Speedway within the next two weeks for the training of automobile drivers and aviators who wish to prepare themselves for entrance into government service in event of war, according to announcement by the Speedway Association. More than fifty professional automobile drivers and a number of aviators have notified the association that they will join the camp.

Warning Given to Britons

National Service Needed, Says London Official

London, March 30.—The Right Honorable William Hayes Fisher, Parliamentary Secretary to the Local Government Board, in an address at Hull tonight said it was not an exaggeration to say that the country was in deadly peril at the present moment.

"We must have national service for everybody," said Mr. Fisher. "We did not intend to stand more than three years of war. Germany's idea was to starve us out before we could knock her out. What we want is to knock the enemy out this year, and we are beginning to do it."

Aid to French Fliers Sets Forger Free

Sentence Remitted Because Advice Benefited Country

Paris, March 30.—Because Armand Deperdussin had established French supremacy in the air and enabled French fliers to meet their German adversaries with machine guns, his sentence of five years in prison was immediately remitted today, after a jury in the Assise Court of the Department of the Seine had found him guilty of forgery, swindling and embezzlement in his airplane construction business.

His wife, tried on the same charges, was acquitted.

The evidence against Deperdussin was clear, but witnesses in his behalf declared that he had been the first to advise equipping French planes with machine guns. It was due to him, they declared, that French engineers had been able to work out a type of airplane construction for the lack of which France would have been driven from the air by German Taubes and Fokkers.

An inquiry into Deperdussin's affairs early in the war revealed the fact that he had \$5,000,000 debts outstanding. He had been arrested in 1913. His aid to the French air service was given while he was under indictment.

ADVERTISEMENT

Why China Enters the War

The diplomatic reasons which led China to array herself on the side of Japan and the Allies are clearly described by Frederick Moore in

ASIA FOR APRIL Out To-day

Mr. Moore's experience of fifteen years as a correspondent in the Orient and Europe gives him an intimate knowledge of Asiatic politics. This is but one of many timely articles in the April ASIA, the new copiously illustrated monthly magazine dealing with Oriental customs, trade and politics, from an American point of view. At any news-stand 25c. Or send \$2.00 for a year's subscription (in U. S.) to

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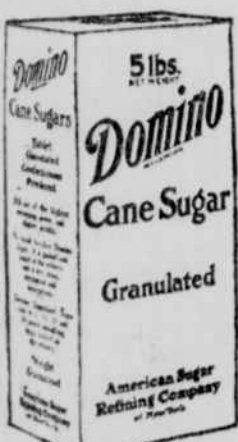
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